



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 14 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Government of the Republic of Croatia deeply deplores the tragic death of the valiant Spanish officer, Francisco Jesus Aguilar, who was killed in the line of duty on 11 June 1993 in the town of Mostar, on the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He is another unfortunate casualty that the United Nations Protection Force has suffered during its noble peace-keeping and humanitarian mission. Each one of these incidents must be carefully investigated, including the tragic loss of life of Lieutenant Aguilar, so that all the causative circumstances could be taken into account and those who are responsible for these crimes against humanity could be brought to justice.

The facts which have been established so far concerning Lieutenant Aguilar's death provide no clear evidence as to who attacked the vehicle in which the Spanish officer was killed. Therefore, it would be premature to draw any firm conclusions and put the blame on just one side. The sacrifice of Lieutenant Aguilar must not be in vain or misused for small political gains, but should serve as a turning-point in repulsing all kinds of militant extremism in the region.

The overall situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is worsening and calls for imminent action by the international community. In order to stop and reverse the disturbing violence and anarchy, which has increased since the United States and its allies announced in Washington the so-called Joint Action Program, it is necessary to start rapid implementation of the Vance-Owen plan and all the relevant Security Council resolutions. Until then it is of the utmost importance to establish an undisturbed flow of humanitarian help for the benefit of the endangered civilian victims of Serbian aggression. Any violent attempt to stop or slow down the distribution of humanitarian supplies must be considered as an intolerable act against basic norms of humanitarian law. In the light of this fact, the Croatian Government is calling upon all sides in Bosnia and Herzegovina to enable free and unlimited delivery of humanitarian help, which must be equally distributed to all the victims of aggression, among whom there is a significant number of ethnic Croats.

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Croatia has officially urged the Security Council to post its monitors along the entire international border between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is the firm opinion of the Croatian Government that this measure would significantly contribute to easing the tensions in the region. At the same time, it would prove how unfounded are the allegations of the "interference" of the Croatian Government in the internal affairs of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Republic of Croatia is ready to participate actively in the implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions, but it is the United Nations and the world community which should use determined action to promote peace and stability in the area. The Croatian Government repeats its calls for a Security Council emergency session to address the ongoing violence in central Bosnia (as I have stated in my letter, S/25920, dated 9 June 1993) and the vicious Serbian attacks on "safe areas" that demand sincere response by the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
